

# THE BARBER COUNTY INDEX

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NO. 45

## JAMES R. HOLMES KILLED

**Fell From Wagon one Mile West of Hardtner and Wheel Passed Over his Head, Crushing the Skull.**

The people throughout Barber county, Kansas and Woods county, Oklahoma were shocked beyond measure last Wednesday afternoon when the news was flashed over the wires telling of the sudden death of James R. Holmes, the wealthy and widely known ranchman of Aetna.

Mr. Holmes met his death one mile west of Hardtner. He had purchased a wind mill and other machinery and supplies in Kiowa in the forenoon. He drove a span of young and spirited mules and his wagon was heavily loaded. There was no eye witness to the accident but the conditions surrounding the body when found leave only one solution and that is that in going down a small incline Mr. Holmes who was sitting on the spring seat of the wagon, the wagon having sideboards on, reached to put on the brake and as it was quite a long reach, he lost his balance and fell. One side of the skull was crushed, indicating that the wheel of the wagon had passed over it.

Geo. B. Mote found Mr. Holmes's body. He was going to Hardtner and met the team a short distance west of the scene of the accident and tied it and continued toward Hardtner to find the owner. When he came to the body, which was in a small ravine, he did not recognize it, although he and Mr. Holmes had been close neighbors and friends for more than twenty years. The face was covered with clotted blood and the head horribly crushed. Mr. Mote went to the nearest residence and got two men and together they went back to the gruesome scene and identified the body as that of Mr. Holmes.

The news was at once telephoned to this city and County Attorney Field, Dr. J. H. Donovan, J. P. Hall and Zeal Johnson hurried to Hardtner in Mr. Johnson's car. In the meantime the body had been taken to Hardtner. Upon arrival at Hardtner, after learning the facts, the county attorney decided that the cause of death was so apparent that no inquest was necessary and the body was placed in the automobile and taken to Undertaker Laughman at Kiowa where it was embalmed and brought to this city on Thursday morning.

The funeral was held at the home of J. S. Runyan at 10 o'clock a. m. Saturday, conducted by Rev. C. J. Spiers, pastor of the Baptist church, and the remains interred in a Highland cemetery. The funeral was very largely attended.

A large delegation of Odd Fellows from Kiowa, as well as other friends from that city, attended the funeral. Mr. Holmes was a member of the Kiowa I. O. O. F., and the members from both Kiowa and Medicine Lodge attended in a body and held the ritualistic service.

The floral offerings were exceedingly nice and imposing.

James R. Holmes was born at Natural Bridge, Virginia, November 2, 1847; died at Hardtner, Kansas, March 16, 1910, aged 62 years, 1 month, 14 days. He came to Barber county in advance of much settlement and secured a ranch at Aetna. He had been adding to the area of his ranch until now it contains something over 15,000 acres. He had been one of the large stockmen of Kansas and Oklahoma for the past twenty-five years and was one of the most wealthy men in his part of the country. A very conservative estimate of his estate places it at \$150,000 but if land values continue to increase as they have been increasing in the past two years, it will not be long until his land alone will be worth more than that amount.

Mr. Holmes was an unmarried man, but he is survived by five sisters and two brothers—Messrs. Hall, Runyan and Wall of this city; Mrs. Donovan of Oklahoma City; Mrs. Caldwell of Warburg, Mo.; John Holmes of Oklahoma, and Robt. H. Holmes who has been in the hospital in Wichita for the past three months. All of the brothers and sisters attended the funeral.

The deceased was a shrewd man business and always full of energy. He will be greatly missed

from the business life of Barber and Woods counties and his death is an incalculable public loss.

The brothers and sisters and other relatives have the most profound sympathy of their friends in the grief which has so suddenly fallen upon them.

## Limb Broken in Runaway

While out driving Sunday evening about 8:30, Lee Chapin and Miss Dora Haun were so unfortunate as to become the victims of a runaway, resulting in Miss Haun's sustaining a broken ankle of the left limb and a severely sprained ankle and knee of the right limb. Mr. Chapin was driving his father's black horse. He was always reputed to be one of the gentlest horses in or near town, but on this occasion he was excited. Earlier in the evening he became almost unmanageable and came near getting away. He took a dash down Main street but Lee got him stopped near the railroad.

The second and serious runaway started at L. T. Williams's residence. The horse took fright when some fast drivers (presumably "jagged") passed him. He made the turn east of the school house, dashed south to the court house, turned west, and at the Badger Lumber Company's scales struck the side walk, going almost on an air-line until he got to the crossing at Mrs. Johnson-Adams's residence where the buggy was overturned and both occupants were thrown out. Several men from Johnson Bros. barn rushed out and caught the horse and came to the rescue of Mr. Chapin and Miss Haun. Mr. Chapin was not hurt at all and it was several minutes before Miss Haun realized how badly she was hurt. She was taken home and Dr. Coleman was called and injuries as above noted were discovered.

This is another instance in which the old and trusted family horse lost his bearings. It is fortunate, however, that it did not terminate worse. There are trees on both sides of the walk down which the horse ran just before the occupants were thrown out, a ditch on one side and a fence on the other, and but for Mr. Chapin's rare presence of mind in holding the horse to the center of the walk, both would have surely been hurled to their death.

## J. R. Holmes's Will Probated

The last Will and Testament of James R. Holmes, was offered for probate in Judge Garrison's court Saturday afternoon. The bequests are brief, and are as follows:

To John Henoy Suhlert is bequeathed 3,200 acres of land and \$2,500 in cash; to Una Holmes-Lewis is bequeathed \$1, and to her child, Helen Holmes Lewis, is bequeathed the earnings of \$2,500 until she becomes of legal age when the principal and earnings are to become her exclusive property.

All of the remaining property is to be equally apportioned among the seven living brothers and sisters, Messrs. John and Robert Holmes, and Messdames Hall, Wall, Runyan, Donovan and Caldwell.

Dr. J. H. Donovan, Sallie D. Hall and Nannie R. Runyan of this city are appointed executor and executrices of the will. The will was filed by Mr. Holmes Jan. 19, 1910.

Seward I. Field and Noble & Tinscher are attorneys for the estate.

Work will begin at once at taking an inventory of the estate and until it is completed the value will be largely speculation. It has been estimated by parties who are in a position to have some idea, at from \$100,000 to \$200,000.

## Mrs. Landis to Nicaragua

Mrs. Jessie F. Landis departed on Monday morning to join her distinguished husband, Lieutenant I. F. Landis, at Corinto, Nicaragua, where he has been on naval duty since last summer. At New York Mrs. Landis will be joined by the wife of another naval officer and they will sail from that point tomorrow (Thursday). She did not know at the time of leaving, how long she would remain at Corinto. She received a letter from Lieutenant Landis a few days before her departure stating that he was now stationed at Corinto and asking her to join him.

## Some Excellent Shooting

The St. Patrick's Day shoot in this city last Thursday was a gala day for sportsmen. A large crowd was out and there was good shooting. Five professionals were here. Capt. Hardy did some fine target and shotgun work after the regular program and it was interesting. He is little less than a marvel in the matter of handling guns, shooting things in motion, employing two guns at the same time and shooting two different objects. It would be a long story to describe his different exhibitions but it will be sufficient to say that it embraced much that is wonderful and almost incapable of belief to those who did not see it.

H. H. McCoy was second in the amateur class and first so far as local skill goes. W. C. Williams of Wichita took first money in the amateur entry.

The sum of \$276.75 was distributed in awards but the professionals were barred from participating in the division.

The records of the different participants:

	No. Shots	Broken
*Ed O'Brien.....	150	147
*Del Gross.....	150	141
W. C. Williams.....	150	140
*Capt. Hardy.....	150	137
*John Gillespie.....	150	137
H. H. McCoy.....	150	136
*J. L. Head.....	150	135
*Jent.....	150	131
G. A. Richardson.....	150	130
Otto Southworth.....	150	126
G. C. Davis.....	150	125
J. C. Gano.....	150	123
L. D. Sparks.....	150	112
A. Ott.....	150	105
C. Parsons.....	150	104
—Neff.....	135	112
—Stout.....	120	93
Thos. Parr.....	105	50
—Miam.....	75	54
Garnett Richardson.....	60	51
—Bette.....	60	50
—Poulter.....	60	44
Geo. Kimball.....	60	38
W. A. Langhart.....	60	38
—Ward.....	60	38
D. A. Brumley.....	60	32
S. L. Field.....	60	35
L. C. Mills.....	60	35
—Nurse.....	30	24
Thos. Knight.....	30	21
C. W. Kild.....	15	8
L. Ott.....	15	8

\*Professionals

HIGHEST AVERAGE (Professionals)

(1) Ed O'Brien.....98 per cent

(2) Del Gross.....94

HIGHEST AVERAGE (Amateurs)

(1) W. C. Williams.....98 per cent

(2) H. H. McCoy.....97

(3) Jent.....87

Longest run, McCoy—57 straight.

## Back to Their First Love

George R. Peck, who recently moved from the Cottonwood valley between Sharon and Attica, to the irrigating fields of Texas, with his father and brother, has returned to his first love and is now a thorough Barber county citizen. Last Thursday he closed a deal with Dr. Wisner of Sharon township, purchasing 120 acres of choice farm land for the very reasonable sum of \$3,600.00, and will soon have one of the attractive homes in that vicinity.

Mr. Peck was one of the few men in this part of the country who was induced to go with an emigrant party to see the Texas lands advertised last fall by a Chicago syndicate. He found the climate unhealthy, irrigating expensive and unsatisfactory and a money losing proposition in general, and the sum and total of it all is that he is again back in a good country where health, wealth and happiness reward merit and honest effort. It doesn't pay to move away from this part of the earth.

## Selling Fords all the Time

C. N. Marshall sold a model T. Ford car to J. E. Woodward on Saturday. This is the third car he has sold this month and he has several good prospects in sight. The Ford is a very popular machine and its price is more moderate than other and inferior cars. It has discarded all useless weight, and consumes less material in operating, is better adapted to country roads than many of the other cars and gives the highest satisfaction to those who use it.

All of these elements help to make sales, but above all is Mr. Marshall's ability to show a car and to get everything out of it that there is in it. He is also an advertiser. He has confidence in his car and isn't afraid to show the public his confidence, and he backs up his claims with the positive proof.

With all these things in his favor, it is not to be marveled at that the Fords are filling up the country so rapidly.

## St. Elmo March 26th

Augusta J. Evans's celebrated story, St. Elmo, will be presented at the opera house in this city Saturday night, March 26th.

In dramatic form it deals with the redemption of St. Elmo Murray through the patient example of a young girl.

St. Elmo was a man of intellect, education and refinement, who in his young days was the soul of generosity, truth and goodness; through the deception and baseness of a trusted friend it incites him to an act which eventually destroys all but the brute in his nature. Until he is thirty-five years of age he drowns all virtues in evil dissipation and vice.

A young girl, Edna Earl, comes into his home through the charity of his mother, and by her examples and patient forbearance he is led back to his better self.

There are many incidents in the play to interest; a delightful vein of comedy and stirring dramatic story. There is a touch of rural life most pleasing, scenes range from picturesque sunsets in the Lookout mountains to society's faddish homes.

If you have read the book—you will want to see the play. If you have not read the book—don't miss it—it's equally interesting.

## A. D. Levens Held for Trial

The preliminary trial of A. D. Levens of Elm Mills township was held in this city before Justice Collins on Friday and the defendant was bound over to undergo trial in the district court in May. His bond was renewed in the sum of \$1000, his father, John Levens, continuing as his surety.

Mr. Levens was arrested a few weeks ago on a complaint of Clara Levens, his wife. They were married last May, and three days after the marriage a child was born. Some time thereafter, Mr. Levens returned to his parents' home and advised Mrs. Levens to return to her father's home. Mr. Levens, it is said, accuses his wife of infidelity and also denies the parentage of the child, both of which allegations she denies. She testifies that her only errors have been in submitting to the desires of Mr. Levens before marriage.

It is a most deplorable case, involving, as it does two of the best families in Elm Mills, but there seems little or no hope for a reconciliation and unless the parties change their minds, it will have to take its regular course in court.

County Attorney Field is prosecuting the case, and J. N. Tinscher of this city and Wm. Barrett of Pratt represent the defendant.

A bunch of Knights of Pythias, namely, R. S. Crane, Seward I. Field, J. E. Woodward, O. A. Smith, Zeal Johnson, C. C. Painter, J. N. Tinscher, G. F. Guthrie, W. E. Marquand, C. E. Thompson, S. W. Ireland, Dr. L. L. Osborn and U. C. Herr, participated in the festivities given by the Kiowa lodge last Wednesday night, and to say that it was a splendid affair falls far short of doing justice to the Kiowa Knights. The Medicine Lodge boys were taken charge of by the Kiowaites and were treated royally. The banquet which was served by the ladies of the Eastern Star was perfection itself—it was par excellence and incapable of being excelled. The Med. Lodge contingent returned home Thursday morning looking a little worn on account of having spent a sleepless night but singing the praises of the Kiowa brethren. The Kiowa lodge is only about two years old but it has a membership of about seventy-five and is averaging about four candidates per week. They are strictly alive and have the true Pythian spirit. Long live the Kiowa Knights!

## To the Ladies of Lake City and Vicinity.

I will have a stock of Spring Hats and Millinery Goods on exhibition at G. G. Shigley's store at Lake City on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 5th and 6th, and either my trimmer or I will be there to show these goods.

I cordially invite the ladies of Lake City and vicinity to call and look at my display of hats on those two days.

MRS. W. B. SPRINGER.

The United Doctors only treat curable cases, but they often cure when all others fail.

## DR. I. W. STOUT DEAD

**A Citizen Since 1880. Widely Known Throughout Kansas. A Strong Democratic Leader.**

Dr. I. W. Stout succumbed to his long illness on Monday, March 21, 1910. The end came at 4 p. m., and all of the members of the family except one son whose whereabouts is not known, were present.

Dr. Stout took sick last November with what was at first regarded as slight blood disorder. He spent a month at Geuda Springs and was somewhat benefited but the disease gradually gained a foothold on his system until it developed into a radical case of blood poisoning. Having himself been a practicing physician, Dr. Stout realized his condition and abandoned hope for recovery a month or more ago. Hence, his death is not a surprise, but it is a source of inexpressible grief to the people of Medicine and Barber county with whom he has been associated for thirty years.

Funeral services were held at the home of the oldest son, W. E. Stout, yesterday afternoon under the auspices of the Masonic order of which the deceased had been a member since his young manhood. Rev. W. T. Van Horn, pastor of the Presbyterian church, read the obituary and made a few brief remarks appropriate to the occasion.

Isaac W. Stout was born at Gilboa, Ohio, April 6, 1846; died at Medicine Lodge, Kansas, March 21, 1910, aged 63 years, 11 months, 15 days. He was married to Elia Hortense Case, February 4, 1871, and to the union were born five sons and one daughter, the daughter dying in infancy. The sons are W. E., E. W., W. P. C., Rexford and Ray Stout. The latter named decided to see the world about ten years ago. He served in the army several years, and the last heard from him was about two years ago when he wrote to his parents that he was going to Panama. Two of the sons, W. E. and Rexford, live in this city; E. W. Stout is manager of the Metz Lumber yard at Lake City, and W. P. C. Stout is a harness maker at Harper.

Dr. Stout and wife came from Ohio to Barber county April 30, 1880, and have since resided here. They first settled in Elm Mills township and engaged in the sheep and cattle industry. Later Dr. Stout moved to Medicine Lodge and practiced medicine and in late years he devoted himself to fruit growing but the tornado of 1907 destroyed his fruit farm and since that time he has occupied other fields of labor.

From his first settlement in Barber county, Dr. Stout took a keen interest in public affairs. He was a Democrat from principle and that principle was sacred to him. He knew no compromise; had he done as many men in this age do—drift into the dominant party for policy's sake, he would doubtless have been one of the great men in Kansas politics. But this was foreign to his makeup and he preferred to remain steadfast to his convictions and at peace with his conscience. He attended practically all the state, district and county conventions held in Kansas during the past twenty years and had much to do in directing the party policy, and had a very wide acquaintanceship. He was a hard fighter but he was fair and honest.

We shall miss Dr. Stout from our social, business and political life. He did not leave a vast estate but he left a character and a personality that will endure throughout a generation and this is a memorial more sublime than was ever conceived by the genius of the most skilled sculptor.

The widowed wife, whose grief is most pathetic and sacred, and the sons who mourn, have the undivided sympathy of a numberless throng of friends in this dark hour.

Besides being a Mason, Dr. Stout was a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and carried \$2000 insurance in that order.

On Monday, Dr. Donovan, accompanied by A. M. Houchin and Mrs. J. S. Runyan, took Mrs. Houchin and Mrs. Wilson Holmes to St. Francis hospital, Wichita. While there were no alarming symptoms in either case, it was deemed advisable to take both to the hospital. The nature of treatment will depend entirely on developments.

## EASTER

O Easter Day, dear Easter Day! What wealth of thought you hold! And long-dead dreams come back and away My spirit as of old.

What memories sweet of faded years From childhood's happy shore; Dear faces, now but seen through tears, Are bright with smiles once more.

Dear eyes whose holy light went out, With love once more are bright—O, grief! O, pain! O, spectral doubt! You die in Easter's light.

Dear lips of love that now are dust, Call back from fairer clime—O, thought! O, dream! O, deathless trust! You come at Easter time.

Then, with each hope the season brings, O, soul! triumphant rise Above the grave of old dead things, Where Self's low purpose lies.

—J. M. W.

## Prof. Dyche's Visit

Prof. L. L. Dyche, State Game and Fish Warden, of Lawrence, Kansas, made two addresses in our city on Saturday afternoon. His first address was made before the County Teachers Association and the second was an address to the farmers which was delivered at the court house.

Prof. Dyche is an entertaining speaker. His subjects are interesting and he is a veritable storehouse of knowledge. He is a man of affairs, well informed on many subjects and has the faculty of impressing his listeners with his sincerity.

Speaking about law violations with respect to hunting and fishing, he said that it was his purpose to enforce the law to the letter and his policy is to send unknown deputies into different counties whose business it will be to do detective work, and if men are caught hunting out of season or fishing with seines or otherwise unlawfully, they will be punished without regard to their standing or influence in the community. He also talked entertainingly about building dams and retaining water supply on the farms, proposing to stock ponds with fish wherever farmers build substantial ponds and keep them up.

Prof. Dyche was entertained, while here, by Miss Mary Best, C. I. Long and wife, V. S. Cook, J. E. Thomas and A. M. Houchin, deputy game warden. Mr. Thomas took him to Pratt in his motor car Monday afternoon, where he went to his next appointment via the Rock Island.

## Presbyterian Church

We appreciate the good will of our Methodist friends as evidenced by the presence of so many of them at our preaching services on last Sabbath.

We desire to call attention again to the temperance lectures, to be given at the Baptist church next Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, by Mrs. Minnie Johnson Winstead. This is a worthy woman representing a worthy cause and Medicine Lodge should turn out in force to hear these lectures.

The subject of this mid-week prayer service will be, "The Call of Abraham," continued. Please be prepared to give a new testament quotation on "Faith." Bro. Hall will suggest special objects for prayer, and Mrs. Shaw will furnish religious news items of interest.

The Ladies Aid will meet in the church basement Thursday afternoon. Choir practice Friday evening at the usual hour.

A special literary and musical program will be rendered in connection with the Sabbath School next Sabbath, and an Easter treat will be distributed among the children. Will not all the membership of the church make a special effort to attend the Sabbath school next Sabbath morning? It would be a worthy thing to do.

The subject of Sunday morning's sermon will be, "The Resurrection of Christ." Evening subject, "The Resurrection of Men." The pastor is making unusual effort, by study and prayer, to have important messages on these important subjects. Every member of the church and congregation ought to rejoice when it is said, "Let us go up to the House of the Lord" on this great thanksgiving day of Christendom, and should try with the leaf and bud of nature, to awake into newness of life. It is the earnest and prayerful desire of the pastor that these be well attended and profitable.

W. T. VAN HORN, Pastor.